nickel/titanium/vanadium. Any of the superelastic or shape memory alloys can be formed into a tube and laser cut in order to form the pattern of the stent of the present invention. As is well known, the superelastic or shape memory alloys of the stent of the present invention can include the type known as thermoelastic martensitic transformation, or display stress-induced martensite. These types of alloys are well known in the art and need not be further described here.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7 and 30.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 17, 21, and 27 as follows:

1. A flexible intravascular stent for use in a body lumen, comprising:

a plurality of cylindrical rings interconnected to form the stent, each cylindrical ring having a first delivery diameter and a second implanted diameter;

each cylindrical ring having a proximal end and a distal end defining a cylindrical wall extending circumferentially between the proximal end and the distal end of the cylindrical ring; and

at least one flexible link attaching each cylindrical ring to an adjacent cylindrical ring, the link including a bounded aperture disposed in the link between adjacent cylindrical rings and disposed nearer one of the ends of the adjacent rings to facilitate mounting of the stent on a delivery device, with the bounded aperture having at least one aperture defining portion disposed generally transverse to the stent longitudinal axis.

2. The stent of claim 1, wherein the bounded aperture comprises two aperture-defining portions generally perpendicular to the stent longitudinal axis.

17. A flexible intravascular stent for use in a body lumen, comprising:

a plurality of cylindrical rings interconnected to form the stent, each cylindrical ring having a first delivery diameter and a second expanded diameter, each cylindrical ring having a plurality of peaks and valleys defining ends of the rings; and

at least one link attaching each cylindrical ring to an adjacent cylindrical ring, the link including (1) an aperture disposed in the link between adjacent cylindrical

rings and also disposed nearer one of the ends of the adjacent rings to facilitate mounting of the stent on a delivery device, (2) an aperture defining link portion disposed generally perpendicular to the stent longitudinal axis, and (3) a tapered portion connecting the link to the generally perpendicular portion.

21. A flexible intravascular stent for use in a body lumen, comprising:

a plurality of cylindrical rings interconnected to form the stent, each cylindrical ring having a first delivery diameter, a second expanded diameter, and a plurality of peaks and valleys; and

at least one link attaching each cylindrical ring to an adjacent cylindrical ring, the link including (1) an aperture disposed in the link between the adjacent cylindrical rings, (2) an aperture defining link portion disposed generally perpendicular to the stent longitudinal axis, (3) a tapered portion connecting the link to the generally perpendicular portion, (4) a radiused portion connecting the tapered and perpendicular portions, and (5) at least two undulating link portions, one undulating link portion being disposed between the aperture and one ring, and another undulating link being disposed between the aperture and an adjacent ring.

27. A flexible intravascular stent for use in a body lumen, comprising:

a plurality of cylindrical rings interconnected to form the stent, each cylindrical ring having a first delivery diameter and a second expanded diameter;

the cylindrical rings having a plurality of U-shaped portions, Y-shaped portions, and W-shaped portions that are expandable;

each cylindrical ring having a proximal end and a distal end defining a cylindrical wall extending circumferentially between the proximal end and the distal end of the cylindrical ring; and

at least one flexible link attaching each cylindrical ring to an adjacent cylindrical ring, the link including a bounded aperture disposed between the ends of the adjacent cylindrical rings, the aperture being defined in part by two aperture defining link portions disposed generally perpendicular to the stent longitudinal axis and being connected to the link by two tapered and radiused link portions disposed on opposite sides of the aperture.